Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 DHA-02 OMB-01 /088 W ------ 093429

R 041518Z SEP 75 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2765 INFO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

UNCLAS PARIS 22673

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CN, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH STATEMENT ON THE COMOROS

REF:A PARIS 19005 (B) PARIS 20275 (C) PARIS 20441

- 1. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR OVERSEAS DEPARTMENTS AND TERRITORIES STIRN TOLD THE PRESS SEPTEMBER 3 THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMOROS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (ESTABLISHED AUGUST 3) AND FRANCE FOR TRANSFERRING TO THE NEW AUTHORITIES OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE THE POWERS PREVIOUSLY EXERCISED BY THE ADMINISTRATION FOR FRENCH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES BEGAN SEPTEMBER 1. THE NEGOTIATIONS CONCERN JUDICIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.
- 2. STIRN CONFIRMED THAT INCIDENTS OPPOSING PARTISANS OF FORMER HEAD OF GOVERNMENT AHMED ABDALLAH TO THOSE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD OCCURRED SEPTEMBER 2 IN THE NORTH OF GRANDE COMORO ISLAND RESULTING IN THREE DEAD AND ABOUT TEN WOUNDED. HE INDICATED THAT CALM HAD BEEN REESTABLISHED.
- 3. NOTING THAT THE COMORAN SITUATION HAD NOT APPRECIABUNCLASSIFIED

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LY CHANGED DURING RECENT WEEKS, STIRN SAID THAT THE

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CONTROLS THE ISLANDS OF GRANDE COMORO AND MOHELI BUT "DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE THE SITUATION IN HAND" ON ANJOUAN, WHERE ABDALLAH IS LOCATED. STIRN DESCRIBED MAYOTTE AS BEING "STILL WITH-IN THE FRAMEWORK OF FRENCH LAW" AND SAID IT WAS STILL PLANNED TO ORGANIZE A POLL, WITHOUT FRENCH PRESSURES AND IN THE PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS, TO DETERMINE THE DESTINY OF THAT ISLAND. FINALLY, STIRN SAID FRANCE "IS NOT INTERVENING" IN THE ARCHIPELIGO FOR ITS POLICY IS "TO ALLOW SELF-DETERMINATION TO OPERATE".

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: RECOGNITION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SELFDETERMINATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DEPENDENCIES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 SEP 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Camment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a

Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1975PARIS22673
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750306-0363

From: PARIS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750984/aaaacwem.tel Line Count: 72

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION AF Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PARIS 19005, 75 PARIS 20275, 75 PARIS 20441
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 25 MAR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by RowellE0>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: FRENCH STATEMENT ON THE COMOROS TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CN, FR, (STIRN, OLIVIER)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006